

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:-

1. A method for facilitating maintenance of an inkjet printer of a type having a pagewidth printhead, the method including the steps of:

5 providing the inkjet printer in at least first and second portions detachable from each other, the first portion requiring replacement more frequently than the second portion in use;
wherein the first portion includes the pagewidth printhead.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first portion further includes a printing fluid storage for storing printing fluids to be delivered by the pagewidth printhead.

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3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the first portion is a printer cartridge removably received within said second portion.

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4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said second portion is a printer cradle unit having a cavity adapted to receive said printer cartridge.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the printer cradle unit includes an electrical control unit to control operation of said printer cartridge.

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6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the printer cradle unit includes power and data connectors to mate with corresponding data and power connectors provided on said printer cartridge to facilitate operational control of said printer cartridge by said electrical control unit.

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7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the printer cradle unit includes a print media handling system for supplying print media to the printhead of the printer cartridge for printing.

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